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McGill Fortnightly.

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EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

VALEDICTORY.

With this issue, Vol. IV. of the FORTNIGHTLY is completed, and the labors of the present Editorial Board come to an end. While it is undoubtedly a relief, especially at this trying part of the session, to be free, yet it is not without regret that we sever our connection with our College journal. The work has not been uncongenial, and it has been a very great pleasure to do this year, as best we could, that portion of the work which has fallen within the sphere of the Editorial Board. We have a lively sense of the defects attending our work, and we need scarcely say that we fully appreciate now the difficulties in the way of carrying on an enterprise of this kind. The fact that students, and especially Final Year men, can only spare a comparatively small portion of their time from their sessional tasks, and that, therefore, their work must be hasty and defective, is a consideration, but not the most important; the chief difficulty is to meet satisfactorily the wants and wishes of our readers. It is necessary to produce a paper, first of all, that will satisfy the undergraduates; one they will take a living interest in, look forward to, welcome when it comes, read, contribute to, and, most

important of all, subscribe for; to suit all, from Freshman to Final man, is an almost impossible task of itself. Then we have our professors, graduates, etc., and general readers, and, lastly, it is most essential that our Journal should adequately represent the noble institution whose name it has borrowed, and be able to hold its own with those other college journals with which we exchange in Canada, the States, and over the sea. In view of these considerations, we feel that the captious reader will be inclined to show us some indulgence.

One feature of our policy, however, we have adhered to from the beginning,—the Undergraduates have been our first consideration. The FORTNIGHTLY is and ought to be, first of all, a student's paper: *a studentibus studentibusque*.

Pursuant to this policy we have inserted in each issue, besides the Class Notes, one or two articles specially designed to relieve the hard worker and afford the necessary relaxation. This idea, we have reason to believe, has been appreciated by the students. The columns of the FORTNIGHTLY were thrown open to the students, and while more contributions might have been sent in, yet we are not inclined to complain, as, in this respect, we have been generously supported, many excellent articles having from time to time been forwarded to the Board. It is to be hoped the students will continue to do this in future. The FORTNIGHTLY ought to be of some practical advantage to the students, not only as affording them entertainment and instruction, but as a medium through which to convey their thoughts and sentiments on many matters, and to give them ample opportunity of cultivating their literary abilities.

While, therefore, it is with sincere pleasure that the Editorial Board can announce that the FORTNIGHTLY leaves their hands, as it came into their hands, in a prosperous condition, they are not without hope that certain changes may be made in the future which will be still more satisfactory to the students. It has been suggested that McGill ought to be represented in the literary world by something heavier than the FORTNIGHTLY. We concur in this view. The splendid monthlies and quarterlies received as exchanges incline us to the belief that the University of McGill is not doing herself full justice in the eyes

of the world. Nor are we apprehensive that the FORTNIGHTLY would suffer by the establishment of a McGill Monthly or Quarterly. The strong meat contained therein would be perhaps out of place in the FORTNIGHTLY, nor would it be contributed to this paper in any event; while that literary ability of a high order, which is at present lying dormant, but which undoubtedly exists in the higher intellectual circles of McGill, would be brought forth, to the great advantage of the students and the public, and to the honor of the First English University of the Province of Quebec.

It is to be hoped we will have a McGill Monthly or a McGill Quarterly, as well as a McGill FORTNIGHTLY before very long.

It only remains to extend our sincerest thanks to those graduates and others, friends of McGill who have contributed to our columns during the session. Assuredly to them may be attributed in large part such success as the FORTNIGHTLY has met with this year.

We especially appreciate the kindness of Principal Peterson, whose good nature has not unfrequently been tried, we fear, in the Board's anxiety to secure full reports of those lectures and addresses which have formed a most interesting feature of this year's volume. But all our requests have been most courteously acceded to.

And nothing less than ingratitude could prevent our mentioning Mr. Henry Mott, Assistant Librarian, who has never failed us, and to whose scholarly pen the FORTNIGHTLY from the beginning owes so much.

The FORTNIGHTLY next year will be under the control of the following Boards:

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CONTRIBUTIONS.

UNIVERSITIES OF HOLLAND.

There are four Universities in Holland. The Dutch think that this number is too great for their small

land with its population of but 4,600,000. I wonder what they would think of a country with only a few hundred thousand more inhabitants, in which there were more than a full dozen of universities. In Canada we have an extensive territory, it is true but, even allowing for this, our land seems to be much more blest with these institutions than is Holland.

The University of Groningen is in the town of that name to the extreme north of the land. The city is about the same size as Quebec. Its University was founded in the beginning of the 17th century. It has not achieved the prominence of the other similar institutions of the country, and its number of students is comparatively small, not exceeding as a rule 500. It enjoys, however, a fine reputation for Modern Languages, and is favored by those who expect to occupy positions as teachers in the public schools of an intermediate or higher grade. Within the last few weeks its professor of philosophy has accepted a call to Leiden, to occupy the chair vacated by Professor J. P. N. Land, who has been obliged to retire because of ill-health.

At Amsterdam is the most recently founded of the Dutch higher schools of learning. It dates from about twenty-five years since, and is not like the other Universities a "Rijks Universiteit," or National Institution, but is founded and supported by the city. This may seem a little strange, inasmuch as Amsterdam is the capital of the Netherlands. It is no doubt due to the fact that the other seats of learning are very old, and could not be closed up; while the Staats General did not see its way clear to assume the support of another such enterprise. Amsterdam Civic University is the second in size, and is attended by about 900 students. As might be expected, its Medical facilities are the great attraction to students. The other University towns are much smaller, and cannot afford the same clinical facilities as are to be obtained in a great place of 400,000 to 450,000 inhabitants. The number of medical students is great in proportion to that of the other faculties at Amsterdam itself, and also in relation to that found in the Medical lectures of the other Colleges. One of the interesting things in connection with the Philosophical Faculty of this University is the existence of a chair for the philosophy of Thomas Aquinas. It appears to be the one University where the Roman Catholic Church is officially recognized in such a way, and is, besides, the one where the same church has secured most foothold in the Theological Faculty, where they likewise have a professorship in Systematic Theology.

It is better to say, in this connection, that here the Theological Faculties of the Universities are arranged differently to those in Germany, where the Government provides for the teaching of all the Divinity

branches. Here, the Government does not nominate the Professors of Systematic Theology, but leaves this privilege to the individual Confessions, whose nomination remains to be confirmed only by the State. Thus, independence in the teaching of dogma is guaranteed, and thus, too, we find in the same University two or more professors of Systematic Theology. In Germany, two professors may teach Dogmatics, but hardly at the same time, and, in any case, each has upon him the implicit obligation of loyalty to the confession of the Landeskirche. This obligation seems to be very slightly felt by the professors, however, for I have heard a German theological student complaining earnestly that he was required to confess certain doctrines for admission to orders in the Landeskirche, and that his professors had declared these to be antiquated and erroneous.

In another respect, the Dutch Theological Faculty differs from the German. The former always provides for a Professorship in the History of Religions, while in Germany no provision of this kind is made, nor, indeed, is the subject a favorite one, as it seems to be here. By the History of Religions is to be understood an historical account of religions—Pagan, Jewish, Semi-Christian and Christian the world over. If I may be allowed to express a judgment, it would be that such a provision to serious reflecting students may be of immense value, if the professor himself be a serious and impartial historian; but if either of these conditions be not present, I can see an imminent danger of a shipwreck of faith, and of a cultivation of prejudice, which will pervert the moral vision for many a year.

Now we come to Utrecht, whose University as an all-round institution of higher culture is second in importance to the University of Leiden. Its number of students is, however, smaller than that of Amsterdam. I am not aware that it has its eminence in any particular branch, but it is generally recognized as a good school, and the citizens of Leiden good-naturedly feel toward it as toward a rival who is making a fine race, but will hardly attain to the first place. The University building is the finest of the four in the Netherlands. It was originally a portion of the Cathedral of Utrecht, but it has been long taken from its original purpose. The building was restored in 1879. As everyone knows who is familiar with either geography or history, Utrecht is an inland city, and may be said to be the only one possessing a University, for Leiden is so close to the North Sea, perhaps five miles in a straight line, that it can hardly be called inland.

There is no question as to which is the greatest "hall of learning" in this land. The only Dutch University, concerning whose existence the world generally is tolerably familiar, is that of Leiden. The

others are, as has been said, very eminent schools, but there are many reasons why the Rijks Universiteit of Leiden is better known than the rest: it is the oldest in the land, being founded in 1575. It has connected with it the Royal Museums of Antiquities, Natural History, Ethnography, Geology and Mineralogy, Anatomy and other national collections and institutions. Its library is the largest in the country, and in the department of Oriental manuscripts and books, one of the few great libraries of the world. To us this University is associated with thoughts of the great antagonists, Gomar and Arminius, and the Arminian Controversy, with René Descartes the philosopher, with Erpenius the Orientalist, Hugo Grotius, writer on International Law and on Theology, and others whose names are less familiar. We English have an interest in the city of Leiden from the fact of the early Puritans having made this their asylum from persecution in England. It was in Leiden, too, that poor Oliver Goldsmith studied medicine, after the church had thrown him overboard, though he is not mentioned in the traditions as one of those who added fame to his Alma Mater.

The University of Leiden has in the neighborhood of 1000 students, of whom three-fifths may be reckoned as in Law and Medicine, and two-fifths in Philosophy, Theology and the Sciences. The men best known among the professors are Tiele in the History of Religions, Kern in Sanscrit, de Goeje in Arabic, Schlegel in Chinese, and Klinkert in Oceanic Languages. The professors in Law and Medicine are eminent, but do not have the same opportunity as those mentioned to become known in other lands. It will be seen that the subjects attached to the names given are not such as are generally popular, and the isolation of the men in this respect may add to their prominence, though there is no doubt that these scholars would be prominent under any other reasonable conditions.

Later on, it may be granted us to say something about the life of the students, the teaching of the professors (as far as we know it), and other matters of detail. At present, we have sought to give but a few points in relation to these Universities, the training homes of scholars whose merits were very modestly described by a German professor of mine when speaking of the College-bred men of Holland. "You know," he said, "the Dutch are all very good people."

WALTER M. PATTON,
LEIDEN, Holland.

X RAYS.

The excitement caused by the discovery sprung upon the world by Professor Roentgen in the last days

of 1895 is already fast subsiding except among students of Science. Repetitions of the principal experiment have been made everywhere, and described *ad nauseam*. Radiographs of hands, birds, rabbits and fish are already an article of commerce. If all the coins that have been photographed through wood were collected, they would form a respectable competence. Even the direct applications to surgery have become so much a matter of course that they cease to excite astonishment; and the wilder speculations that were hazarded at first have died away, as the nature of the process and the limits of its usefulness have come to be better understood. One has to go south of the line nowadays to find a would-be photographer of the brain, or a senator who brings in a bill to make it illegal to take Roentgen rays in opera glasses to the theatre and so enjoy a mean advantage over the actors!

The main interest is now centred, not in the "new photography," nor even in its practical applications, but in speculations and researches on the nature of the X Rays themselves, their connection with scientific work on similar phenomena, which led up to them, and the possibility that through them we may gain deeper insight into the constitution of matter, the nature of high vacua, the ether, and the processes going on in it. Before turning to this new field, McGill University and its Medical School may allow themselves a natural satisfaction in remembering that, thanks to the splendid apparatus in the McDonald Buildings, it was a simple matter to repeat Roentgen's experiment at the first attempt; and especially that within the first four days' work—on Feb. 6th—a direct application to surgery was made—the first on this continent, and the most important that had been attempted at that date.

Professor Roentgen's discovery follows naturally on past work. The dark space next the negative electrode, or kathode, of a Geissler Tube, had been found by Varley, Hittorf and Crookes, to spread to the walls of the tube as the vacuum was pushed to the millionth of an atmosphere. It was then seen that a cone of dim violet rays diverged in straight lines from the kathode, and when they impinged on the glass of the tube, made it hot, and made it shine with a fluorescent light. These kathode rays could drive small windmills inserted in the tubes, were deviated by a magnet, repelled each other. What could they be? Crookes held them to be streams of the remainder molecules of gas capable of travelling far in the high vacuum before being lost in the crowd; Puluji held they were streams of particles torn off the electrode itself; Hertz and Lénard held them first to be molecules; then, when Lénard, three years ago, brought them outside the tube through a window of aluminium foil, which proved to be

pervious to the rays, they were led to believe them "Processes in the Ether," similar perhaps to ultra violet light, by observing their behavior in the air, and in vacua other than that in which they had been excited.

The presence of these rays is recognized by the fluorescence they excite; and it was while studying them by this means that Professor Roentgen noticed a fluorescent screen lighted up at some distance from the Crookes Tube, how kathode rays could neither pass through the glass of the tube, nor exert their power in air for more than a distance of 6 centimetres. Some hitherto unknown agent was therefore at work. The paper in which Professor Roentgen described to the Wurzburg Academy the research he now instituted is a model of scientific caution and accuracy. Nearly all the facts about these rays known to-day are to be found modestly stated there. The relative transparency of many substances is given in a table. The resemblances to light in rectilinear propagation and the law of decrease in strength with the square of the distance; the points of difference from light in that X Rays are incapable of regular reflection, refraction, and apparently of interference and polarization; the difference from kathode rays, inasmuch as they are not affected by a magnet—all is soberly described, and a dozen lines given to the curious photographs that may be obtained by means of X Rays, with the hint of possible applications in surgery.

With all the ardor of investigation that has been spent on the subject since, but little more is known to-day. Times of exposure have been somewhat reduced. The facts about the X Rays stated by Prof. Roentgen have been verified. The shadows of bones in the hand have been *seen*, by using a dark tube closed by a fluorescing screen; but this method was freely used by Roentgen in his investigations. It is a strange thing that at this moment it is not certainly known from what part of the tube the rays come! Roentgen says he proved by special experiments (not detailed) that they come from the parts of the glass which are made to fluoresce. Prof. Elihu Thomson a few days ago detailed an experiment in which he took a photograph of an object upon two plates placed one an inch or two below the other. The lines joining the edges of the shadows meet in the kathode itself, which should therefore be the source. But in the Comptes-Rendus of February 17th, just arrived, is an account of a similar experiment communicated to the French Academy of Sciences, which seems to prove the positive pole or anode in the source. The same journal gives other experiments tending to show that there are many qualities of X Rays. At present it must be admitted the whole subject is a fascinating riddle.

Almost the only novel and, to my mind, the most

interesting fact that has yet been added to Prof. Roentgen's original discoveries, is the curious power the X Rays exhibit of discharging an electrified object. You may protect either the object or the Crooke's Tube by enclosing the one or the other in a complete metal case connected to earth—a process which would entirely shield each from the electrical influence of the other under ordinary circumstances; yet the Crooke's Tube will in a few seconds discharge the object (less easily if its charge is at first positive than if it is negative), and will in either case soon reduce it to a certain negative potential dependent on the material of which the electrified object is made. Here is a striking analogy with a well known action of violet light. I look to the developments from this point with special interest, partly because it supplies a method of studying the X Rays at once sensitive and capable of quantitative results; partly because it bears on a suggestion I ventured to make at the very beginning, that the effects were probably not due to any kind of light at all, but were electrostatic in nature and similar to those produced in certain cases by ultra-violet light.

The time has not come yet for any speculation as to the ultimate nature of X Rays; but such authorities as Dr. Oliver Lodge and Mr. Nikola Tesla have by no means yet given up the idea that both Kathode Rays and X Rays may be due to streams of particles of some kind projected through space, as may be seen in Dr. Lodge's recent survey of theories on the subject in the *Electrician*, and Mr. Tesla's still more recent utterances.

JOHN COX.

A REMINISCENCE.

An interesting incident—one we might say of all-absorbing interest at the time to the undergraduates of the Faculty of Arts—occurred some years ago at McGill. A full account of the same is contained in a very venerable and musty MS. which has come into the possession of the Editorial Board. We learn that the matter created no end of excitement at the time, and that all, without exception, of the Arts men were concerned therein. Many old McGill men, reading these lines, will remember their ancient pranks, and we have no doubt this one in particular will bring them far back again to student days under the shadow of Mount Royal.

We gather from the yellow document (very tenderly to be handled), in our possession, that one Joseph D—wh—t, then janitor of the Arts building, a good heart, and very popular with the students, be-thought himself one day of changing his state and manner of life, and of taking to himself a wife, which indeed he did in due course; and thereupon the stu-

dents assembled on a memorable occasion, and presented him with the under address with all due solemnity. The address itself was drawn up by a now well known member of the junior bar of this city.

ADDRESS.

MR. JOSEPH D—WH—T.

SIR:—

It has come to the knowledge of the students of the Faculty of Arts, that you, Joseph D—wh—t, for some time honorably connected with McGill College, having for some time exhibited unmistakable symptoms, have at length publicly avowed your purpose of entering into matrimony.

I, having received authority from the students, assembled in full conclave, do hereby declare that your intention is highly creditable both to yourself and the institution with which you are connected. Such an intention is both innocent and laudable, and has given us all a higher opinion of your enterprising spirit and heroic fortitude of soul.

You will, now, having experienced the dubious joys of single life, enter for the first time upon the unalloyed pleasures of lawful wedlock. This is right and proper. Your multifarious duties have given you opportunities of observing the fair sex, you know their amiabilities, you have studied their weaknesses; you do not, therefore, undertake this enterprise with your eyes shut. Permit me to remind you that you are entering upon a new and untried course of life. It is a knowledge of this fact that has induced us to come forward to encourage you with cheering words. Moreover, a deep appreciation of your genial temper, unflagging industry, high spirit, and moral rectitude, as well as a sense of our obligation to you for your kind attention in the past leads us to beg you to accept this slight token of the esteem in which you are held by every student in Arts.

(Here the Slight Token was duly presented.)

Several changes in your habits of life will now be in order. Your means should less lavishly be used for purposes of personal adornment, while a considerable amount must be expended upon the object of your tender passion. You will realize this more fully later on. Increased gravity also is becoming to the brow of a married man, though unsuited to the unadorned temples of the bachelor.

At night instead of retiring to your lonely chamber, instead of seeking the society of friends, or the haunts of worldly frivolity, you will retire to the sacred precincts of the domestic circle, whose heart-soothing joys will render you oblivious to the vexations of life, the enmity of foes, and the deceitfulness of friends. And should your household cares in the progress of time become increased, as is not unlikely, and should your offspring arise like young olive branches, surrounding

your path with the innocent prattle of youthful voices, it will become your duty to train them up to love and reverence McGill and to send them to our Alma Mater for intellectual nourishment.

Yet, why speak of duties? Two youthful hearts are about to be joined together, having long already been united by the tender bond of affection. Let us speak of love; of Hymen the god of marriage, who has now appeared among us in visible form. In dealing with this part of the subject I have found prose utterly unable to sustain those higher flights of the imagination which are naturally created by its contemplation. Having, therefore, invoked each of the nine muses, particularly *Erato*, goddess of amatory song, I have essayed in verse that which the capabilities of English prose utterly refused to undertake. Permit me before entering upon my adventurous flight, from which a safe return is somewhat doubtful, to wish you and your bride, on behalf of the students, all that joy and felicity which springs from a happy union, good health, and abundance of worldly goods.

(And here the writer, discarding the clumsy vehicle of prose, and spreading forth his poetic wings, breaks forth into song in this wise :)

Hymen, the god who serves when lovers wed,
Had long been missed, and some had thought him dead.
In vain our Jerseyed youth, upon the field
Wore spotless pants, with yellow buskin heeled,
In vain the manly runner's strength of limb
Along the track like Hermes seemed to skim.
Though Cupid oft had wandered up the row,
Shot darts at maids, and twanged his silver bow,
Though Venus every grace had deigned to fling
Around the nymphs that haunt the Eastern Wing ;
Whose heavenly charms with mortal beauty blent
Had many a Fresh and Sophomore's bosom rent.
Hymen, coy god, had rarely been invoked
Though love held sway his votaries shunned the yoke,
And long delay hath tenfold fires provoked.
—But late the god in flowing robe was seen
With lighted taper gliding on the green.
It was the hour at which, from learning's door,
Donald's charms in sweet confusion pour ;
When all the college ground and classic shade
A living bower of paradise is made.
The silent god was greeted with a smile
(Such favors 'oft the sterner sex beguile),
But shame-faced Hymen seeing turned aside
And in the deepest thickets sought to hide,
And seemed as with some bitter grief oppressed.
Thus urged his eye, thus spake his heaving breast.
But when along the walk the maidens passed,
A pensive glance among their ranks he cast.
"Five score" he said, "of maids my lawful prey
McGill hath snared and held for many a day.
In vain my minister with barbed steel
Strikes hearts which only love for learning feel ;
His fiery shaft just grazes on the heart,
And flirts, not wives, are products of his art."
Thus spake the lying god ; though sure, in vain
Are Cupid's wiles, where learning's precepts reign.
—The god advanced, and crimson more than wont
Was mantling on his cheeks and open front ;

His clustering locks about his forehead clung,
Around his breast a spotless robe was flung.
So light his step upon the yielding sod,
The flowers arose and hailed the nuptial god.
He scaled the steps, immediate the porch
Was rosy with the matrimonial torch ;
The ruddy light in all the halls was seen,
It flushed the brow and visage of the Dean ;
Yet, longest in the hall of classics stayed—
E'en Hymen knows, and loves, a choice old blade.
Before the door he paused, and gently blew
A silver horn ; abroad the echoes flew.
The mellow tones divide the gathered gloom,
And penetrate McGill's remotest room.
Up from the Stygian shades and depths below
To meet his fate advanced the victim Joe.
About his mouth a brace of dimples played
Where once the scorching gas such havoc made.
But now, where then the fiery deluge seared,
A new grown mop, a glossy beard appeared.
Thrice he essayed, and thrice essayed in vain,
His faltering tongue confessed a new-born shame
Before the glittering god subdued and meek,
Mild was his voice and tamed his wonted cheek ;
Then spake the god : " My well-beloved son,
I know thy heart, and know the mischief done.
Yet think not shame, but honor to you due,
Thousands have wed, and thousands live to rue.
Let half-starved youths seek wasteful learning's side,
My favorite sons shall lead the blushing bride.
Collect thy soul to act the bridegroom's part,
Deep is the wound, yet Hymen heals the smart."
His word pronounced, he ended with a nod.
The trembling building testified the god,
And all the air was filled with rich perfume ;
Upon the breeze was heard a wedding tune ;
The matrimonial taper gleamed so bright,
The mountain's brow was flushed with rosy light.

HOBBIES.

"Blessed is the man that hath a hobby."

Lord Brougham.

"He hath no leisure, who useth it not."

George Herbert.

A man without a hobby is but half a man. Many might feel tempted to controvert this proposition, but it would not be difficult to make out a very strong case in its favor. An old adage hath it, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Unlike a good many old adages, this maxim has more than its age to commend it. The truth of the statement rests on a sound basis of physiology. Nevertheless, there are many in this sordid world who never realize its significance until it is too late. While the heart is young and the spirits elastic, one is apt to think that all the world is his, and so he rushes with all the strength of his young manhood into the battle of life, eager in the struggle for knowledge, fame, or the "almighty dollar." A rude awakening comes sooner or later—a weakened physique, a shattered nervous system, and an enfeebled brain hurry him into a premature old age. Especially is this picture true of this Nineteenth Century of ours, with all its culture and wisdom. The struggle for existence has become so

keen, the race for life so swift, that the weak are hopelessly left behind in the struggle, and those who win do so at the terrible cost of ruined health. This is proved by the fact that while medical science has done wonders in either preventing or mitigating many forms of disease, yet nervous diseases and insanity are ever on the increase. This can only be explained on the principle that we are living too fast. To pay our dividends, not only our interest, but our physical capital are being expended. Every fibre of our being is strained to the uttermost, and not being built like the "wonderful one-hoss shay," we give way at the weakest spot, and our fall is great.

The wise man realizes this, and here the usefulness of the hobby comes in. It is necessary for a healthful, happy life, to have a plentiful supply of useful, interesting work, blended with a judicious modicum of well-spent leisure. So "unbending the bow of the mind," as Homer hath it, and enjoying what ought to be an *otium cum dignitate*, we pass into the autumn of our years with a light heart and a smile upon our faces, happy in the realization of a well-spent and useful life. This is the spirit that prompted Oliver Wendell Holmes, when asked how old he was, to reply, "I am eighty-four years young." This reply conveys a solemn truth, and we would do well to heed it.

Many of the foremost men of the day, those most active in serving mankind, are yet men of spare moments. A life of great activity is not incompatible with a useful leisure.

Leisure does not imply idleness. With many men leisure is only a change of occupation, yet none the less does it relax the mind and give it the needed time for recuperation. Indeed, many men are hardly less active in their relaxation than in their work. Thus it is that Gladstone, in the midst of active political work, could find time to translate the Odes of Horace, write "The impregnable rock of Holy Scripture," and break many a lance in the field of controversy. Balfour could spare time from the perennial Home Rule question to write the "Foundations of Belief," one of the most philosophical works of the age. Lord Salisbury, in the throes of a political campaign, could address the British Association for the Advancement of Science upon the tendencies and possibilities of modern scientific research.

Not unfrequently has it happened that through their hobbies and their pastimes men have become famous, when they might have been comparatively unknown had they confined themselves to their serious vocations.

Oliver Wendell Holmes was a physician in active practice, and left his mark upon the medical world. His work as a teacher at Harvard was so arduous, that when asked what chair he occupied at the Uni-

versity, he replied with his characteristic smile, that "instead of a chair it is a whole settee." Yet by most people he will be remembered as the "autocrat" and the writer of "The Chambered Nautilus." Sir John Lubbock, though a banker, is chiefly known to fame as a delightful writer on Natural History.

Sir Seymour Haden, a surgeon, is perhaps better known as the president of the Royal Society of Painter-etchers.

To go further back, many of the great men in the world of letters had some business or profession.

Dante, Petrarch, and Boccaccio were diplomatists; Chaucer was a courtier, an ambassador and a custom house officer; Rabelais was a physician; Schiller a surgeon; Charles Lamb was a clerk in the East India House; Macaulay was Secretary for War when he wrote the "Lays of Ancient Rome." Grote, the historian of Greece, was a banker. Nieburh, the historian, was a bank director, and found time to master Arabic, Russian, and some of the Slavonic languages. Galileo and Galvani, famous names in the realms of physics, were physicians.

Of the older writers none is more delightful than quaint old Isaac Walton. A prosperous linen draper in Chancery Lane, it was his greatest pastime to hasten away into the country, and by the banks of the Lea or the Dove, angle in hand, lure his scaly prey from their cool retreats, and muse withal upon the beauties of the world about him. A true naturalist at heart was this man of business, and in his "Compleat Angler" he gives us many delightful pictures of rural scenes, clothed in quaint but always charming language. Truly, his book is a monument of pure, refined English, "a well of English undefiled." I venture to quote the following verses to illustrate his love of natural scenes and his style of diction:

THE ANGLER'S WISH.

I in these flowery meads would be ;
These crystal streams should solace me ;
To whose harmonious bubbling noise
I wish my angle would rejoice,
 Sit here, and see the turtle-dove
 Court his chaste mate to acts of love,

Or, on that bank, feel the west wind
Breathe health and plenty ; please my mind,
To see sweet dewdrops kiss these flowers,
And, then wash'd off by April showers ;
 Here, hear my Kenna sing a song ;
 There, see a blackbird feed her young,

Or a laverock build her nest ;
Here, give my weary spirits rest,
And raise my low-pitch'd thoughts above
Earth, or what poor mortals love ;
 Thus free from lawsuits and the noise
 Of princes' courts I would rejoice ;

Or with my Bryan and a book,
Loiter long days near Shawford brook ;

There sit by him and eat my meat ;
 There see the sun both rise and set ;
 There bid good-morning to next day ;
 There meditate my time away ;
 And angle on ; and beg to have
 A quiet passage to a welcome grave.

Every line here is redolent of the fresh country air, and lays bare the inmost heart of the writer, a man thoroughly in touch with Nature, and one whose purest joys arose from his appreciation of her loveliness. Old Isaac was in his way a sybarite, but one of the right kind.

Some might say that angling is a useless pleasure and a waste of time ; but if it be, as Sir Henry Walton calls it, "idle time not idly spent," it can be made the instrument for affording the purest pleasure.

For a man jaded with the whirl of city life and work, nothing could be better than a few days' fishing. It calms the brain and brings man nearer to the eternal harmony of Nature ; it affords him profitable time for meditation and self-communion ; and if he be the right kind of man, he is the better mentally and morally for the relaxation. Like Walton, he is at peace with himself and all the world.

Another true naturalist, although in another line, was Robert Dick, the baker-naturalist of Thurso. Only a poor baker, at times barely making ends meet, by taking time from his sleeping hours, he was able to travel all over Caithness in the north of Scotland.

By stinting his food and clothing he saved enough to buy a few scientific books, and made a careful study of the flora and the fossiliferous rocks about his home. He was the first to prove the existence of the *Hierochloe borealis*, or holy-grass, in the British Isles, a fact which all the botanists of his time denied. He discovered the *Asterolepis*, a large fossil fish, and by his discoveries in geology was of the greatest use to Sir Roderick Murchison and Hugh Miller, both of whom acknowledged their great indebtedness to him. The latter, in his "Old Red Sandstone," and "The Testimony of the Rocks," obtained facts and observations from Dick which were of the greatest value. And this humble, uneducated man was acknowledged by the leading geologists of the day to be their master. All this from his way of grasping the opportunity. Like Silas Wegg, he occasionally "dropped into poetry." The following verses were so admired by Sir Roderick Murchison that they were inscribed in the minutes of the Red Lion Club, to which he and the leading geologists of the day belonged, and it was long sung at their annual meetings :

SONG OF A GEOLOGIST.

Hammers an' chisels an' a',
 Chisels an' fossils an' a',
 Sir Rory's the boy o' the right sort o' stuff,
 Hurrah ! for the hammers sae braw.

It's good to be breaking a stone,
 The work now is lucky an' braw ;
 It's grand to be finding a bone—
 A fish-bone the grandest of a'.

* * * *

Hammers an' chisels an' a',
 Chisels an' fossils an' a' ;
 The deeper we go, the more we shall know
 Of the past an' the recent an' a'.

Here's freedom to dig and to learn—
 Here's freedom to think an' to speak ;
 There's nane ever grumbled to look at a stane,
 But creatures baith stupid an' weak.

Hammers an' chisels an' a',
 Chisels an' fossils an' a' ;
 In spite of the devil we'll dig as we're able—
 Hurrah ! for the hammers sae braw.

These illustrations just cited are examples of intellectual hobbies. There are many others which are more amusing than intellectual. Many great men have sought to beguile the tedium of work by occupations or relaxations of a trivial or peculiar kind.

Domitian occupied his spare moments in catching flies. One of the kings of Macedon made lanterns. Charles the Fifth, after his abdication, amused himself by making clocks. While Petavius was at work on his *Dogmata Theologica*, his great relaxation was at the end of every second hour to twirl his chair for five minutes. Spinoza set spiders to fight each other, and unbent his mind by laughing immoderately at their antics. D'Audilly, the translator of Josephus, cultivated trees. Balzac amused himself by making a collection of crayon portraits. Erasmus amused himself, while travelling in a post-chaise, by composing a panegyric on Moria or folly, which, authorized by the pun, he dedicated to Sir Thomas More. Cardinal Richelieu found relaxation in violent exercise. On one occasion he and his servant were discovered trying to see who could jump the highest up a wall. Samuel Clark, the great logician, was once found jumping over chairs and tables in his room. On observing a pedantic fellow approaching, he cried out, "Now we must desist, for a fool is coming in."

Dean Hole, in his delightful "Memories," gives us a picture of the hobbies of a clergyman who was neither too busy or too dignified to amuse himself with out-door sports. He seems to have been in his time an all-round athlete, being an archer, cricketer, hunter and a gardener. His proclivities in the latter direction took the form of growing roses, and he was said to have had the best roses in England. Besides this he is a charming writer, and in his book gives us interesting reminiscences of his early days and of people he has known, interspersed with much quiet humor and many an amusing story. He was far from being a horsey parson, and always takes a healthy view of sport. With regard to the question whether a clergyman should hunt or not, he tells the following story :

A clergyman, having asked his bishop if it was right to follow the chase, received the following reply :

"If you can assure me that you can spare the time and the money, that you can take a day's holiday in the week without neglecting any of your duties, reducing your charities, or getting into debt, you have my permission to hunt, on one immutable condition—that you *ride straight to hounds*; and if I hear of you craning or shirking, I shall withdraw it at once."

The bishop evidently believed in doing everything with the might, and his permission was of the right kind.

Any hobby that usurps the place of duty must be anything but healthful.

The collecting craze is another form of the hobby question. Everything is collected,—bric-a-brac, old china, old furniture, pictures, autographs, monograms, post-marks, slippers, souvenir spoons, down to postage-stamps, buttons, and paper collars.

The kodak fiend is another. He "shoots" you when you are off your guard, and perpetuates your semblance for the amusement of himself and friends—rarely yours. Photography is notwithstanding a very healthy and fascinating amusement, and affords opportunity for a great deal of taste and dexterity.

The best hobbies are the intellectual ones, literature, art, music, natural science, those which instruct as well as amuse, not only one's self, but others, those which tend to augment the sum of the world's knowledge and happiness.

Those which are mere "pastimes," and nothing more, must ever take a low place in the estimation of those who are striving to cultivate their higher natures and elevate the plane of humanity, who wish not, after their short span of life is over, to vanish from the stage "and, like the unsubstantial pageant of a vision, leave not a rack behind."

A. G. NICHOLLS.

GRADUATES' SOCIETIES.

I have read with considerable interest the recent articles which have appeared in the FORTNIGHTLY, both from the pen of Dr. R. Tait MacKenzie and from the pen of Mr. Truell, secretary of the Graduates' Society in Montreal.

Whatever is done to bring back into touch with the McGill of to-day those two thousand or more graduates who have been isolated for such a long period of time, must certainly be considered an excellent movement.

Speaking from the standpoint of one who is now a member of a Society of McGill Graduates which made it the *first consideration* of its aim and purposes to work in this line, I can safely say that the task is

one worthy of the undertaking, and worthy especially of the Institution with which we are so intimately connected now, and of which we are also so justly proud.

The vast bulk of the graduates of McGill residing in the Ottawa Valley prior to the organization of our Society was in no wise aware of what progress the University was making, nor (speaking for them) did we feel that we received the consideration at the hands of either the Corporation or of the Board of Governors to which graduates of any University feel entitled.

The Montreal Society of Graduates has done a great deal to keep the residents of the Metropolis together, besides fostering the good purpose of assisting the University whenever it could, by purchasing books, etc., which would materially help our Alma Mater.

Outside of Montreal, the graduates of McGill knew little or nothing of what was going on. For a score of years a mere handful of graduates were represented in the secret councils of the "Board of Corporation."

What was the bulk of graduates doing?

The question might very well have been put otherwise, and read thus:—

Why did not the Corporation of McGill University see that her graduates were entitled to a voice in her welfare before they would leave Montreal after completing their Academic courses, whatever that might have been,—in Medicine, Arts, Law or Applied Science.

As one of the two thousand graduates of McGill who was allowed to leave the College and Montreal, without even a suggestion to qualify for voting purposes, I may say that if the University authorities had requested me or even asked me to pay the then required fee, that would most probably have been done. To pay the qualifying fee at the time of graduation seems to me to be the right thing at the right time; and the amount of trouble which it now entails to get the McGill graduates together, so as to prove to them that the correct thing for them to do is to qualify, seems to be almost too great to be possible even under the present much less severe and more enticing regulations of the "Board of Governors" of the University.

As one who is in touch with a large number of our graduates of from five to thirty years standing and more, I can say that it is very difficult to rouse an interest in the affairs of the University after so many years of separation.

The formation of our graduates' society in the Ottawa Valley was for this express purpose; and this will serve as a reply to Dr. McKenzie's enquiry regarding the "hazy and indefinite" aims of graduates' societies.

In a nutshell we can state that the purposes for which the Ottawa Valley Graduates' Society was formed are:—

1. For social purposes, thereby bringing in new members, and bringing them in touch with each other and the affairs of the University.
2. Discussion of affairs appertaining to the welfare of the University, e.g., Post-graduate courses, granting higher degrees, raising standards.
3. Urging our members to qualify, and hence have a voice in the management of the University. Receiving papers, calendars, etc., from time to time.
4. Seeking to urge candidates to enter the University.
5. Keeping ourselves in touch with the progress and advance of the University.
6. With some of these objects in view, the O.V.G.S. has held local exams in Ottawa for the benefit of candidates wishing to matriculate in any of the Faculties of the University.
7. At our Annual Meetings, the representative Fellows are requested to send in reports of the points of interest which have come under their notice, and have always generously responded to this appeal, besides supporting resolutions formed and passed at our Graduates' Society meetings.

We are delighted to see other graduates' societies rising in the land.

For years past our Society has been agitating the formation of such. I agree with Dr. McKenzie in the lines of work which he has indicated for graduates' societies. Several others might be indicated, but they come more immediately under the general head "good and welfare" of dear old McGill.

We are glad to note the recent action of the "Board of Governors" of the University in allowing graduates to qualify for the sum of \$2.50, at the same time placing to their credit such sums of money as have been paid by them up to \$2.50. In this wise many graduates of long standing not qualified to vote, *i.e.*, to take an interest in University affairs, are now for the first time since Convocation, when they graduated, called upon to take an active part in seeing that proper representatives are sent to be "Representative Fellows" to the Board of Corporation.

There is a great deal for Graduates Societies to do, when the welfare of "Old McGill" is at the bottom of all their acts and doings.

Agitating until all the graduates of McGill are brought into touch with the University ought to be one of the aims of all the now organized Graduates' Societies. Whether that is to be accomplished by direct appeal to the graduates themselves or by legislation on the part of the governing body of the University is a question to be discussed.

My own opinion is that too many years have already

elapsed since the bulk of McGill graduates left her Halls. McGill graduates are now scattered all over the face of the globe, and whilst legislation on the part of the Governing body of the University may not be the ideal course to pursue, yet it seems to me to be the only practical and efficient course.

Implicit faith in the good work performed by the University, faith in the Constitution of McGill University, together with a just pride in the achievements of her professors and sons (as well as of her daughters), should stimulate us to do all we can to advance her interests wherever we happen to be placed after we graduate from those dear old halls.

111 Cooper Street,
OTTAWA, 12th Feb., 1896.

HENRY M. AMI.

POETRY.

TO JULIAN.

My memory has treasures rarer far
Than aught that life can hold for me, in all
The dim and distant future; for the pain,
That in the past was mine, is swept away,
And I remember nothing of it, but
The happiness alone remains to me.
Now from the depths of memory's casket, I
Draw forth the thought of one fair summer day,
One perfect day that shines from out the cold
Monotony of all that came before,
As a clear gem, that seems the brighter for
The dullness of its setting. Gloriously
Dawned that sweet morn; a night of rain had left
A freshness in the air; the golden sun
Touched all the leaves and grass, and of the drops
That hung upon them, made bright jewels of
All rainbow hues; the birds more sweetly sang
Than I had ever heard them sing before—
But that might be because the day was one
Of happiness so perfect that all things
Shone with reflected glory—be it so;
It was a happy day. Do you still think,
If by some chance you ever think of me,
And of the days, long since gone by, when you
Imagined that you loved me—does there then
Come to your mind a vague sweet memory
Of that one day?—the river rushing down
Its rocky bed, to a still crystal pool
Upon whose grassy banks we sat and dreamed
Of all the joy the future had in store
For us alone? And when again the night
Spread her cool shadow o'er us, and the stars'
Pure radiance fell about us, still we dreamed;
Around us in the silence faintly rose
The perfumes of the flowers, in the large
Old-fashioned garden where we sat, and still
The rush of waters came to us from out
The stillness of the night; the whole wide world
Seemed to us then to hold but only two
Of human kind—those happy two, ourselves;
And when the time came—all too soon, alas!
When we must part, e'en as we said farewell
The gladd'ning thought came to us both, that as
This day had been, so should our whole lives be
In the bright future that with joy we'd planned,
Peaceful and quiet, far from din and strife

Of the great world, and where we could be all
 Unto each other. Little dreamed we then
 Of the long weary days that must be, ere
 We two should meet again; nor how, even when
 We met at last, the changes that were wrought
 In each of us should keep us to the end
 Asunder. Yet, I would not, if, indeed
 By simply *willing*, I could have it so,
 That, in exchange for our one joyous day,
 Riches, fame, happiness itself, be mine,
 Unless, as in that time, 'twere with you, dear.
 My memory has treasures rarer far
 Than aught that life can hold for me, in all
 The dim and distant future—So, farewell!

M. G. W.

A STUDENT OF TO-DAY.

1.

Upon the Campus brown and bare
 He stood that man of giant frame,
 And faced a sturdy set of men,
 Who knew his power at such a game.

His eye was keen, his tackle sure,
 He played with judgment, strength, and skill
 Did honor to the *red* and *white*,
 And to the name of "Old McGill."

2.

Within the ball-room bright and gay
 He stood, that man of giant frame,
 And smiled upon a lady fair
 Who knew his power at such a game.

His eye was bright, his voice was sweet,
 He danced with lightness, grace, and skill,
 He wore the *red* rose and the *white*,
 Pinned with the crest of "Old McGill."

G. A. D.

Sc. '97.

WITH MY SUBSCRIPTION.

Every fortnight comes a message
 From the heart of Old McGill;
 Every message waking memories
 Stirs me with a happy thrill;
 Every thrill is but the echo
 Of the days that swiftly flew
 When we worked and played together,
 Royal lads of '92.
 Every thrill to me is precious,
 Every memory dear and kind,
 Every message welcome ever,—
 Please, enclosed, a dollar find.

SOCIETIES.

THE UNIVERSITY CLUB.

The first Annual Meeting of the McGill University Club was held in the Arts building on Thursday, the 12th March, at 8 o'clock p.m., the President, Mr. Rogers, in the chair, there being present a fair attendance of undergraduates. The meeting having been called to order, the President introduced Mrs. Murray, who in a short speech explained her position with regard to

the Dining hall known as "The University Club," and informed the meeting that it had been definitely decided to keep the dining hall open until the 1st of April, 1897, in order to see whether the students would support it sufficiently to justify its being kept up permanently.

The business of the meeting was proceeded with, namely, the receiving of the reports of the secretary and the treasurer.

Mr. W. L. Bond moved, seconded by Mr. Colby: "That the annual meeting be adjourned till the first Friday in October; that a provisional committee be elected now to hold office and take such steps as they deem advisable for the best interests of the Club, till such adjourned meeting; and that the subscriptions already paid in be held over as annual subscriptions for the coming year, unless demanded back by the subscribers."

Mr. E. E. Howard moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Hickson, that the words "provisional committee" be struck out and the present executive continued in office instead. The motion as amended was carried, and the meeting then adjourned till the 2nd day of October.

GRADUATES' SOCIETY MCGILL UNIVERSITY.

A special meeting for the nomination of Representative Fellows was held at No. 844 Sherbrooke street, 10th March, at 8 p.m. Nominations were made as follows:

In Law, Alex. Falconer, B.A., B.C.L.

In Arts, F. W. Kelly, Ph.D.

In Applied Science, Frank D. Adams, Ph.D.

In Comparative Medicine, M. C. Baker, D.V.S.

In Medicine Dr. Finley declined re-nomination, in order that an opportunity might be given the Ottawa Valley Graduates' Society to make a nomination.

Dr. Finley having been an extremely useful member of Corporation, and having served but one term, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him for his past services and for the sacrifice he was making.

An invitation having been received from the New York McGill Graduates' Society to the first annual dinner to be held on the 7th April, it was resolved that the invitation should be accepted, and that the president, Dr. Adams, should represent the Society.

The Secretary, H. V. Truell, read two letters from W. J. McGuigan, M.D., secretary of the McGill Graduates Society of British Columbia, announcing the formation of the Society, and expressing the thanks of the graduates in that Province for copies of the FORTNIGHTLY sent out by the Montreal Society.

A. R. Holden, B.A., S. Carmichael, B.A., B.C.L., N. Keith, B.A., and Dr. Wade were duly elected members of the Society.

Dr. Adams and Dr. Kelly each gave a highly interesting report of the doings of Corporation.

Among others present were: Dr. Colby, Dr. R. Tait McKenzie, Mr. Francis Topp, Mr. F. W. Hibbard, Mr. C. H. Gould, Miss Derrick, Miss Reid, Dr. E. H. Blackader, Dr. Wesley Mills, Wellington Dixon, N. Keith, as well as representatives of the *Montreal Herald* and the *Montreal Gazette*.

UNIVERSITY LITERARY SOCIETY.

On Saturday night, the 2nd instant, streams of people might have been seen steadily wending their way towards the Physics Building, while now and again a laden cab drew up before the brightly lighted doors.

The cause of this unwonted activity was the closing lecture of the Undergraduates' Literary Society.

It has been the custom from time immemorial for the Literary to close its sessions with a lecture by one of our professors. This year a new departure was made, and the lecture, an illustrated one, was thrown open to the friends of the members.

The lecturer was Professor Moyse; his lecture "Ecclesiastical Architecture."

The President of the Literary Society was in the chair. It is impossible to give an adequate idea of the lecture, but it is hoped that the following few notes will convey to the reader some idea of the interesting nature of Professor Moyse's remarks. The lecturer first showed some very beautiful Moorish slides, and touched upon the Moors. He then passed to his subject proper.

Ecclesiastical architecture takes its rise in the Roman Basilica. From this comparatively simple structure the lecturer sketched the different phases of church architecture to the Decorative and the Perpendicular styles.

The Court of Diocletian at Spalato gives us one of the first examples of the arch connecting pillars; this arch appears in later buildings under the name of the Norman arch. The arches are short and semi-circular.

Cathedrals are generally built in the form of a cross; in the East the cross copied is the Grecian, in the West the Latin form is followed.

Rome gave to Europe letters, law and architecture of the Romanesque type. The early Romanesque type is found best developed in the Hartz mountains. Before passing on to examples of different styles as shown in English cathedrals and churches, the lecturer made some remarks on a beautiful slide showing the interior of St. Sophia in Constantinople.

The beautiful structure is a series of domes. When Justinian had finished, he exclaimed that he had outdone Solomon. The building is now the headquarters of Islam.

St. John's Chapel in the Tower of London shows the marks of its time very plainly. The short, stout pillars, surmounted by heavy, semi-circular arches which in turn support the roof, are arranged in a way not far different from the pillars in a basilica. The Norman, though an arch was named after him, did not create any great type in architecture.

A beautiful slide of Durham Cathedral brought that pile, half house of God, half castle "against the Scot" vividly before us.

That cathedrals were not the work of a year or a decade was clearly shown in the next slide, that of the Cathedral of Aix-la-Chapelle, under the roof of which lies the body of Karl the Great. Part of this building is Byzantine in character, while the choir, which is Gothic in style, dates 500 years later.

The Cathedral of Exeter, with its two towers where the transepts should be, the Crypt of Westminster, the transept of Winchester were all shown and commented upon.

Rochester Cathedral is interesting, in so much as it contains a Perpendicular window in an earlier front, thus showing that windows often give wrong impressions as to the date of a building. English churches do not copy cathedrals as Continental churches do, but have generally a form of their own.

From Norman Gothic architecture we pass to Early English Gothic architecture.

The distinctive mark of the Early English Gothic may be, and in fact generally is, the pointed arch.

However, no hard and fast rule may be dogmatically laid down, for as periods in literature overlap each other, so do periods in architecture.

Glastonbury Abbey, which was one of the largest in England, destroyed by Henry VIII., belongs to this Transition period, as also does Fountains Abbey.

It must not be forgotten how much we owe to these abbeys and monasteries, for they in the Dark Ages, kept alive the arts and the sciences. They also served as inns, as hospitals, as alms-houses and dispensaries.

The slide of Salisbury Cathedral was a very beautiful one. The Cathedral is low and long, with a spire that can be seen at a distance of 30 miles, springing up to the height of 404 feet.

Lichfield, with its two western and one central tower, is note-worthy, for the fact that in this building we see the idea of covering the front with statues, which idea is carried out to an extravagant length in some Continental cathedrals. From the Early English Gothic we pass to the Decorative

Gothic, which may be seen in great beauty in Exeter Cathedral. The angel choir, which is transitional, lying between Early English and Decorative, is an exquisite piece of work. The cloisters of Gloucester are the earliest instance of the English Perpendicular style with its beautiful fan vaulting.

King's Chapel, Cambridge, is the best example of our English Perpendicular style, which, indeed, is the special glory of our architecture.

In this connection, after a short comparison of English and Continental cathedrals, the lecturer read a sonnet of Wordsworth on King's Chapel,—a tribute of a poet in verse to a poet in stone :—

"Tax not the royal Saint with vain expense
With ill-matched aims the Architect who planned—
Albeit labouring for a scanty band
Of white-robed scholars only—this immense
And glorious work of fine intelligence !
Give all thou canst ; high Heaven rejects the lore
Of nicely-calculated less or more ;
So deemed the man who fashioned for the sense
These lofty pillars, spread that branching roof
Self poised, and scooped into ten thousand cells,
Where light and shade repose, where music dwells
Lingering—and wandering on as loath to die ;
Like thoughts whose very sweetness yieldeth proof
That they were born for immortality."

The lecture was listened to with great attention, frequent bursts of applause evincing the keen interest taken by all present. At the close of the evening a hearty vote of thanks was moved by Mr. E. Edwin Howard, B.A., Law '98, seconded by Mr. Edward M. Campbell, President of Arts '97, carried unanimously by the audience, and conveyed to the Lecturer by the President of the Society in a few well-chosen words.

SCRIBUS SENIOR.

MONTREAL VETERINARY ASSOCIATION.

A regular meeting of the Association was held on Thursday evening, the 5th inst. The vice-president, Mr. E. C. Thurston, occupied the chair.

After reading the minutes of the previous meeting, the secretary read a communication from Dr. T. A. Rowat ('87) of Honolulu on "Paracentesis Abdominis," which gave rise to a lively discussion on peritonitis in the horse, Drs. Martin and McEachran also participating.

Mr. C. H. Higgins, B.S., furnished an interesting case report of "Traumatic Lesions in a Cow," and Mr. S. Charles Richards followed with a paper on "Acute Specific Pleurisy."

These papers evoked enthusiastic discussions on the part of the members, and were closed by the chairman in a most creditable manner.

Mr. Patterson will read at the next meeting.

H. D.

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF COMPARATIVE PSYCHOLOGY.

The last regular meeting of the above Society for the session of '95 and '96 was held on Monday evening, 2nd inst. The chair was occupied by the president, Dr. Wesley Mills.

The routine of general business over, Mr. Craik, '96, favored the Society with an "Essay on Brain Work and Education." This was listened to with wrapt attention by those present, and elicited a lively discussion.

Mr. Matthews, '97, followed with an able paper on "Migratory Instincts of Animals," in which were presented the various theories regarding this form of instinct, along with some original ideas on the subject, reflecting very creditably on the writer.

Mr. Wallis, '98, followed with a carefully written paper which evidenced much originality of thought and manner of presentation.

Mr. Spanton, '98, dealt with the subject of "Intelligence of the Dog." Being a fancier and an extensive breeder, his opportunities for a study of the psychic characteristics of that animal having been taken advantage of enabled him to treat his subject in a most instructive manner.

Dr. Mills then gave a pleasing account of the recent meeting of the American Psychological Society which he attended, and at which he read a paper on "Further Observations on the Psychic Development of Young Animals."

Meeting then adjourned.

H. D.

MCGILL Y. M. C. A.

The reports presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association have just been printed. Those who have not received copies may do so by calling at the Secretary's office.

Sir William Dawson spoke before the Association on Sunday, March 8th, on the subject "Christ's Testimony concerning Himself." There was a very representative meeting.

Mr. Tory will be in charge of the remaining meetings this term.

The final meeting will be addressed by members of the graduating classes, and promises to be of special interest.

The meeting will be resumed after the Easter holidays, and will be continued during the summer term for the benefit of those taking the summer session. It is earnestly hoped that the attendance will be large.

Y. W. C. A.

At our meeting of February 21st, Miss Binmore, M.A., addressed us on the subject of "Our Graduates Abroad." She gave some account of Mrs.

Reid's work in Africa. The need was emphasized of a greater number of missionaries to preach the Gospel to its many heathen souls. The most effective way to appeal to the women seems to be through their love for their own children, thus leading them to hear of the deeper love of a Heavenly Father.

On February 28th, Miss Radford, B.A., took up the subject "The Spirit, the Comforter." The verses were taken from St. John xiv. 16-26 and xvi. 7-13. She spoke of the peace and comfort in all our Lord's promises, and the Holy Spirit, which is with us not only outwardly and in our daily life, but dwells within our own hearts.

The subject of the meeting of March 6th was "Complete Salvation," our leader being Miss Smith. The lesson was taken from Philippians iii. 7-14 and 20-21. The main thought was upon the worthlessness of all earthly righteousness, and our need of the true Spirit of Christ.

ΔΣ

The regular meeting of the Delta Sigma Society was held on Thursday, February 27th. Miss Bourkewright read an essay on Leonardo da Vinci, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

The essay was more than a sketch of the artist's life, it gave an insight into the working of his genius, which was often producing most when he was apparently idle.

Photographs of some of his pictures, among them one of the great master himself, were passed round, and added very much to the interest of the essay.

Miss Finley read an essay on Beethoven, illustrating it by playing a duet with her sister, and one or two movements alone.

The music was very much appreciated, as the enthusiastic *encore* showed.

It is to be hoped this will form a prelude to a series of musical essays.

GLASS REPORTS.

ARTS NOTES.

FOURTH YEAR.

After lecture on fossils.

L———"Names! names! names!"

McI———"Sticks and stones may break your bones, but names will never hurt you."

A query of general and individual interest: "How many new hoods will be required for Convocation day?"

The appointment of Mr. John Todd, '98, to represent the Arts Undergraduates on the Athletic Association, meets with general approval.

If it were not for the fact that we have apostolic authority for the statement that "The tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil," we might venture to hint to several young gentlemen that the library is a sacred place where silence is supposed to reign supreme. In the light of apostolic pessimism, however, we can only allow ourselves to bewail that the "perpetual motion problem" should have been so completely solved by the aforesaid young men.

THIRD YEAR.

The Exams are at hand. Everything comes to us as question, question, question. (Little comes as answer, but we've a fortnight yet.) Who knows any Mechanics? Unless *Dieu tempère le vent aux brebis tondues*, we're all goners. Isn't Latin Prose a snap? O yes, I don't think. Who knows any Zoology? How far can the *pulex irritans* jump? The only animals we can classify are asses, goats and jays, and it might seem rude to "spot" them here. Who said Rasselas was a fake? I did. Who can read this line in Chaucerian English:—"I knew my name was mudde when my gallus button brokke"? Show that word "mudde" is derived from the French *parler*. Lucky we always get Nicholson's Hydrometer and the Myxomycetes to describe. What is the use of memorizing specific gravities and hardnesses for an exam? Ten days study to write five minutes and forget for a life-time. Then amid all this furore we are told to write an essay each.

A—w is all right; he is going to write on "The influence of Thackery on the Renaissance."

B—y will probably write on "Hair-Combs."

Ye gods, ye gods. What a jumble in the mind of man about the twentieth of March!

It is with pleasure that the reporter notices the election of Mr. S. G. Archibald, '97, the chairman of the Business Board, to the Editorial Board of the FORTNIGHTLY. Mr. Archibald is probably as well read a student as McGill can produce at the present time, and his natural abilities, together with his experience, make him eminently the right man in the right place.

SECOND YEAR.

Professor about to begin a lecture on seeds, as he passes around specimens of the bean family.—"In order, gentlemen, that no one may accuse you of not knowing beans, we will begin, etc."

Now, just a parting word of advice to our Freshies. Everybody knows that when a team wins a game it was through the other side's poor playing; certainly, that is almost a truism. It was clearly demonstrated

in our second game with '99. They again played so poorly that '98 beat them four to two, which conclusively shows that if '98 wish to meet something worthy of their steel they must in the future play with those whose actions give some backing to their words.

"'98 always blow their own horn." Truly our friend has stated a trite and well worn saying, and I presume he is not so unfamiliar with the Odyssey as to be unable to give us an explanation. He no doubt is familiar with the futile attempts of the suitors of Penelope to draw the mighty bow which only yielded to the master hand, and need I carry the comparison further? Who "COULD" blow our horn? The skill and power of Triton even would fail to produce the silvery cadences—echoes of worthy acts which fall from the horn of '98.

THE POET'S DREAM.

I was sitting in the library one bright and sunny day,
When reading o'er my Pliny I gently dozed away.
Of course I fell a-dreaming,—true poets always do,
Just like the poet's poet and old Dan Chaucer too.
The gentle hum of the Freshmen turned to a swarm of bees,
And the rustling of the Donalds to the wind among the trees.
The squeaky boot of the Sophomore brought the mill-wheel back again,
And the whispering of the Fourth Year changed to the whispering of the grain.
Then the quiet of the Juniors brought a peaceful sleep to me,
When Mr. Mott awoke me and asked for the Pliny Key.

A. K. T.

THE SCRIBE'S FAREWELL.

'Tis done! My last report is gone,
My life as scribe is NIT
Yet may I say a short farewell
Before I have to quit?

I fear I've caused the other side
Some bricks at me to fling;
But still I—truly—would not harm
A feather of our Wing.

I fear I've roused great Ninetysix,
I've awed green Ninety nine,
Of course I've squelshed our Soph'mores "bold"
In every other line.

I believe I've asked the Hodograph
To mend its "crooked" ways;
Tho' now I cannot see through things
Like the Roentgen rays.

And so forgive if ever I
Did write a note of you
That could, by its sarcastic tone,
Clog this—our last adieu.

Adieu to all who've scanned these lines
To those who've skipped them too,
To all but Blessed Exams I wish
Adieu, a last Adieu!

S. P. Q.

LEGAL BRIEFS.

Mr. V. Evelyn Mitchell has been unanimously elected Valedictorian for the class of '96. The honor is certainly well deserved. Mr. Mitchell's course has been an exceptionally brilliant one, he has ever taken the keenest interest in the affairs of our Faculty, and is in every sense of the word well worthy of representing it before the public at Convocation. No better man could have been chosen for this important post, and Mr. Mitchell has our sincere congratulations.

At a meeting of the students some days ago, Mr. Francis J. Lavery was elected to the Editorial, and Mr. Herbert Marler, to the Business Boards of the McGill FORTNIGHTLY.

Professor.—"I will commence my lecture at four o'clock."

Student.—"At four sharp, sir?"

Professor.—"Not at all. In the case of such a sharp young man it would be unnecessary." (Loud applause from the Freshmen.)

The lectures in Constitutional Law, in which we have lately been so interested, have been put to a very practical use. The want of a written constitution has long been felt as almost a necessity by the Faculty of Law. The unwritten constitution under which we have so long existed, though in some ways satisfactory, has in many proved very defective. It has been much too easy to suspend the operation of its laws, especially those regarding the order to be observed in lectures and at meetings. The imposition of taxes has not been in the past regulated in the orthodox way, and the lack of prerogative writs—such as those of Prohibition, etc.—has been at times a great grievance.

Mr. Bond has proposed an ingenious scheme to remedy these defects. We are to have a written constitution, one without flaw of any kind, which will be revered in all ages by successive generations of Law students. A committee of constitutional experts was appointed to draw up the proposed body of rules, and included Senators Mullin and Gamble, Messrs. Mansor, Lavery, Duclos and others.

The proposed constitution has been framed and introduced as a bill, but has not yet passed its second reading. The debate promises to be interesting, as we understand that Mr. Herbert Marler has some serious objections to advance. It is believed, however, that the anti-constitutional party will be in a large minority.

There is a young fellow called S——n
Who, through work, has become very thin.
His voluminous notes
Fill all his great coats,
Which cover him up to the chin.

There's a popular fellow named (W—e)
 Who is under a horrible blight,
 When he happens to yawn,
 (Which he does off and on)
 His whole face goes clear out of sight.

FEATHERS FROM THE EAST WING.

With this issue of the FORTNIGHTLY seventeen of our most "constant readers" say good-bye to their college paper. Not but what they will peruse its pages in the future; but when it has ceased to record the achievements and witticisms of the members of the Class of '96, their interest is not apt to be the same, and an occasional reading will satisfy all but the intensely loyal. For youth, we are told, is egoistic, and naturally most enjoys that which concerns itself.

Other hands than ours will henceforth keep the "Feathers" in trim, and with the new editor and her reporters we leave the hope that they may have as large a measure of enjoyment as we found in the work, and greater success.

Of the seventeen about to leave the sheltering "wing" of their Alma Mater, seven have been together at school and college for seven years, and three for eight; so that the separation will be no light thing. Counting up years in this fashion, and looking forward to another sort of life makes Proctor's petition seem especially ours at this time:—

"Touch us gently, Time!
 We've not proud nor soaring wings;
 Our ambition, our content,
 Lies in simple things.
 Humble voyagers are we,
 O'er Life's dim unsounded sea,
 Seeking only some calm clime—
 Touch us gently, gentle Time."

But we would not steal all the thunder from our Valedictorian, and so, with a repetition of good wishes to our successors and a "farewell" to the FORTNIGHTLY, we will finish out the report ere the page is turned upon Donalda '96 once and for all.

The following are bona fide instances of the state of mental confusion which exists in some, otherwise, well ordered minds among us, due, we believe, to the approaching intellectual ordeal:—

W.—"Are you not very much pressed for time of late?"

V.—"Yes, indeed. No time at all for Socialism."

W.—"What are those sliding drawers at the end of the library for?"

X.—"Why, don't you know? The professors and lecturers get their mail there."

Y.—"Have you seen the photograph of Florence which hangs in the English room?"

Z.—"No—er—Florence who, did you say?"

Each alternate Tue.day dreary, as I ponder weak and weary
 Over many a book of long forgotten lore,
 Comes a presence close behind me, as of Fate about to bind me
 To a duty where it finds me, lacking, lacking as of yore.
 "'Tis your class report I'm seeking," saith the Spirit, "as of
 yore;
 Only this and nothing more."

SPRING NOVELTIES.

Recent dreams among the Juniors show startling spring effects. The leading shades are misty grey and dull green, sometimes relieved by pale or even bright rose colors.

One dream recently reported was a novel and bewildering combination of Mechanics and French. This appeared to the weary eyes of a wan Donalda; before her floated the vision of an examination paper in Mechanics with an ominous N.B.—"Il faut que les réponses soient écrites en français."

Another wandered through a gloomy forest of antediluvian times, in frantic search for a root whose medicinal powers should reveal to her its modern derivative.

Nor was this the worst. Another imagined herself pickled in "evil-smelling" alcohol, with fifteen vindictive soldier crabs under the tutorage of the twelve foot Macrocheira Raemperi holding council as to the development of her cerebrum.

The Junior who will affect the rosy garb in the coming season dreamt that she went to study her metaphysics by a purling brook. But soon fell into a deep slumber, and found herself caught up into the seventh heaven where the weary cease to study and it is always May.

The members of the First Year regret that Monday is no longer a red letter day in regard to their Latin Prose; their papers now fall into other hands.

COMPARATIVE MEDICINE CLASS NOTES.

This being the last issue of the FORTNIGHTLY, we take this opportunity of thanking those who have assisted us in the compilations of the class reports.

The task has not always been an enviable one;—at times it has seemed that there really were no items forthcoming—then at the last moment some kind friend came to the rescue.

We extend to our successor, Mr. B. A. Sugden, our most hearty congratulations on his election, feeling confident that during his term of office the Faculty will have a representative most worthy.

As for ourself, we will henceforth speak in the first person singular.

Faculty news is at a premium these days, and the reporters fail to respond to the pitiful appeals of the editor,

The Second Year men desire to express through these columns their great appreciation of the labors of Drs. Scane and Cameron, in their behalf.

The appearance of the class picture is eagerly looked for. We would suggest a "before and after" picture as an innovation of interest.

One of our professors has cards out for a reception to be held in his office previous to examinations. Nearly every student will be there.

SECOND YEAR.

A Final man carries his watch in his hip pocket. Asked the reason, the answer is "in order not to be behind time."

Positions Wanted: Apply to '96 men.

Jimmy is "steeling" himself for his leave-taking; but oh! the broken hearts that will be left behind.

For Sale: Notes on Chemistry. Apply to——.

Much indignation exists among the students over the remarks of one of our professors on the "demoralization, etc.," he claims to see among the men at this trying season.

The general impression is that under the peculiar circumstances the remarks in question were undeserved.

Owing to the increasing lack of reciprocity between this country and our cousins across the line, we sometimes wonder how a case of "swelled head" from the Third Year will pass inspection at the border.

SCIENCE NOTES.

FREEDOM'S PLAINT.

(With Apologies to Dr. Drummond.)

Long tim w'en I was leetle boy I'm pass troo collège groun'
Dere's not so many building den but nice pat' all aroun'
Me an' some n'oder fellow too go dere and climb de tree
An' eat de haw an den sometime ole Hèrbèrt he's catch me
I dont tink den some day I'm come for be a student grand
Dere was no science building den but now she's all très bon
Well I'm come up to Molson hall for pass dose hard h'exam
Den to de Science building go an look roun' for long tam
Oh lots of desk with *clean* varneesh an' great beeg place for draw
An fifty hundr' beeg machine an lots more tings I'm saw
An den I go upstairs again where I am see de boss
Oh he's de great big clevaire man an nice box hat all gloss
Well bimeby I'm troo all de h'exam an' in de spring some more
An' den I'haint no more freshee but ver smart sophomore
Well lots of oder smart young man pass h'all de h'exam like me
The third year she is all dead snap but structure théorie
She's snap you tink you gay freshee you tink you're mightee smart
Wait till de boss he's put for you de horse before de cart
He's say sometime he's see you speak to some oder fellee
He's say "Hey! what you talk for you? you better talk wit me,"
An' den "you got some question for ask in chaptaire two?"
Non?" an he's say "Den I'm suppose you know de whole ting troo"
Sometime he's say in nice kind voice "Hey! you beeg man from Hull

What for you come witout your gown like one beeg fool sea gull?"
Perhaps he's say "dis article she's sure for de h'exam"
He's say dat six time in one week de h'exam she'll take long tam
Bimeby one day our president he's mak' de noise en classe
De boss he's say "you fellow h'act like great beeg sheep or h'ass"
Some fellow don't know any more d'an w'en d'ey're first come 'ere
Dey mak' beeg noise and plaintee talk but dey sure get pluck dis year
I know de man w'at's mak' de noise he's like for make de shout
But nex' tam he's don't mak' no noise I'll put de whole class h'out"
Well dat is all I'll tole you now I'm go on home for cram
In spring you come see me I'll tell all bout de spring h'exam.

Freedom, '97.

About the 1st inst., Mr. G. D. McKinnon was suddenly called to his home in Charlottetown, where his father is seriously ill. Mr. McKinnon has the sympathy of the whole Year, and although he cannot return this year, we hope to hear of the speedy recovery of his father's health.

We are pleased to see Messrs. J. E. McDonald and F. H. White back to lectures again after their recent illness.

Mr. F. W. Thompson has safely reached Boulder, Col., and is evidently having a good time. By this time he has likely gained favor with the ladies, as he has already taken the affirmative side in a debate, held in Boulder, subject: "Resolved, that women have the right to vote." We hope that the change of climate will so improve Fred's health as to enable him to resume his studies here again next year.

An individual who has infested the Testing Lab. for some time supposes that "mild steel" is "petty larceny." This may account for the conversion of certain tested specimens into paper-weights.

Reading Room.

Enter Wr—ht. — "Say, you fellows, I've a great gag out in the hall."

B—ll (from magazine). — "Well, why didn't you put in your mouth."

If you wish to show your appreciation of the lecture don't pull out your watch fifteen minutes after its start.

If we are to judge by the number of accidents we have had lately, '97 will not turn out many elevator experts.

DRY WIT.

Voice.—"Who has a monopoly of this towel?"

Tr—is.—"I've got a corner in it."

Prof. N.—You should all learn to write with both hands. In olden times men fought with the sword in either hand; and now that the pen has taken the sword's place, I do not see why you should not be able to change over when one arm gets tired.

Prof. B.—“Get information. Beg, borrow, or steal; but get it.”

McB—n.—“May we do so in exams.?”

Prof. B.—“Yes, certainly; but don't get caught.”

Given:—A tin can with a hole in the bottom, a piece of string with a large knot on one end and a small bit of rosin.

To equate these so as to give a result equal to C—ms—l's laugh.

Prof. (on being shown that a connection has come undone).—“We have been trying to do the impossible.” (Makes connection) “Now we will try again.”

First Aspiring Electrician.—“What are you reading?”

Second Aspiring Electrician.—“*Current* literature.”

Civil bystander.—“That's very *revolting*.”

It is getting near exam-time, but we are not going to tire the already over-wrought brain of the reader with ghastly visions of what may happen, though it is quite an effort to refrain from doing so. It saddens the reporter to think that this is the last batch of notes he will contribute, in his official capacity at least. But it has its bright side as well. The public will feel relieved to know that they will have no more heart-rending “joaks” to put up with, and for the same reason the reporter can once more walk the earth a free man. Fare thee well, reader. I will see thee at Philippi.

The Third Year sustains yet another loss, Mr. A. B. Newcombe has been summoned home owing to the sudden death of his mother. He has the sympathy of his class-mates and of the whole Faculty in this sad bereavement. Mr. Newcombe's home is in Kings Co., Nova Scotia.

EXCHANGES.

The *Educational Review for the Atlantic Provinces of Canada* is published in St. John, N.B. Its editor-in-chief, George U. Hay, is the Principal of the well known “Girls' High School” of that city, and in his hands this Journal has steadily grown from very meagre proportions, until now, in the ninth year of its existence, it ranks side by side with the leading educational periodicals of Canada or the United States.

The *Argosy* of Mt. Allison College, Sackville N.B., is a neat little monthly, but scarcely what we might expect from an institution that has been growing by leaps and bounds during the last few years.

It is perhaps not very wise to institute comparisons, but we think that some of her sister colleges in the Maritime Provinces are still considerably in advance in regard to College Journalism.

Knox College Monthly continues to occupy the prominent position which it has formerly held among our exchanges. The number for February is pretty well filled up with solid reading matter, as the following list of its contents will sufficiently indicate:—

“The Great Temptation.”

“A Good Prose Style.”

“The Theology of Ritschl.”

“The Right of Typology,” etc., etc.

These are rather too heavy subjects to satisfactorily digest just now, with examinations so near at hand, and doubtless the readers of this column will not seriously object if they are passed over in silence.

The *Collegium* is published monthly by the students of St. Dunstan's College, P.E.I. For the benefit of those who may not be familiar with this name we have referred to their College announcement, and find that “St. Dunstan's is annexed to Laval University,” and has a teaching staff of ten professors, who, through modesty, or possibly to obtain uniformity in the list, or for other reasons, do not place any letters after their names. The *Collegium* takes for its motto: “Great Oaks from Little Acorns Grow,” and from the general style of some of the articles, it would seem as if the writers had concluded that they were already full-grown. Here is the opening sentence of one of them: “On that calamitous day when Eve put forth her erring hand to pluck the fruit of the Forbidden Tree, God's fiat went forth, and Death with all its concomitant ills and miseries entered into the world to mar the happiness of the human race.”

Another writer discusses “The Tractarian Movement and the Question it Suggests: Will England yet be Catholic?”

Occasional numbers have also been received of the *Andover Mirror*, *Normal Light* and *Le Journal des Etudiants*; but want of space prevents any extended notice.

We have also to acknowledge the courtesy of the editors of the following City papers in regularly sending us the *Daily Gazette*, *Daily Herald*, and the *Daily Globe* of Toronto, to all of whom we extend our thanks for this much appreciated mark of kindness.

We cannot close this column without a brief reference to the *Canadian Magazine* of Toronto, which has also been given to us in exchange.

The rapid advance of this magazine during the past few months must be a source of satisfaction to all who are desirous of having a distinctively Canadian magazine worthy of the name.

There may have been a time when the chief

reason urged in order to obtain subscribers was, that it should be supported because it was Canadian; but that time is certainly in the past, for it is now of such a style and character that it has outstripped not a few of its class in the United States, and demands a front place solely on its own merits.

The illustrated sketches on "The Men who made McGill," by A. H. U. Colquhoun, B.A., and on "Photography Extraordinary," by F. Tillemont Thomason, make the March number of special interest to all McGill students.

And now at last we have arrived at the end of the list. During the past months it has been our privilege to receive regularly nearly forty different College publications, all of which have at some time during the session been referred to in these columns.

It has been a genuine pleasure to read them, and thus become somewhat familiar with College life outside the domain of our own Alma Mater; and if this column has failed to reflect any of that interest, it should be attributed, not to any scarcity of suitable material, but to the selfishness of the writer (or the printer?) which kept back much that might have afforded pleasure to the general reader.

READABLE PARAGRAPHS.

"Let dogs delight to bark and bite;
To do so is their fate,
They can't be tamed; they never learned,
You see, to arbitrate"

—*Washington Star.*

TWO PROFESSIONS.

He.

"You ne'er can object to my arm round your waist,
And the reason you'll readily guess,
I'm an editor, dear, and I always insist
On the 'Liberty of the Press.'"

She.

"I'm a minister's daughter, believing in texts,
And I think all the newspapers bad;
And I'd make you remove your arm were it not
You were making the waist places glad."

DISCREDITED TESTIMONY.

A former constituent of Mr. Reed's from up in Maine, but who now lives in Arizona, called upon the Speaker the other day, and of course mentioned the fact that his adopted home would expect statehood from this congress.

"Well," said the speaker, "what are your claims for statehood?"

After reciting the wonderful resources of the territory, the caller closed with a brilliant eulogy upon its climate.

"Tut!" said Mr. Reed. "Now come down. I have been out to Fort Yuma, and the weather is so hot that should one die there he would never discover his change of climate."

VERY COMPLIMENTARY.

A certain eloquent bishop had preached to a country congregation, which owing to bad weather, was very thin.

After the service, one of the churchwardens, who had been struck by the sermon, but felt that it had been somewhat thrown away, remarked—

"On such a day your lordship might ha' gien' us a wusser sermon."

"If your lordship *could* have given us a wusser," put in the other churchwarden, who wished to be very complimentary indeed.

The following advertisement appeared in a Birmingham newspaper recently. It speaks for itself—

"**V**IOLIN taught at 6d per lesson. Bun and a glass of milk included."

OBLIGING.

A canny native of Aberdeen, while on a cheap trip to the modern Babylon a week or two ago, wandered into the famous thoroughfare that once bore the name of Petticoat Lane, and stopped for a moment outside a second-hand clothes-shop to examine a coat which was hanging up near the door. In an instant the enterprising Hebraic proprietor was at his side, and asked him if he would not step inside and try on a coat.

"I dinna ken but what I wull," responded the Aberdonian, consulting an enormous watch, and in he went and set to work. No matter how often he found his fit, he tried on another and another till he had tried on upwards of thirty. Then again looking at his watch, he resumed his own garment and walked off, saying—

"Weel, I've lost time nae doot, but hang the fellow that'll no obleege anither when he can!"

CRITICIZED HIS OWN WORK.

One day Leoncavallo was in Forli visiting, when his "Pagliacci" happened to be given. Thinking no one knew him there, he bought a seat and went to hear his own composition. Next to him sat a pretty girl who wildly applauded everything. He naturally was very quiet, enjoying his supposed incognito immensely. Finally his neighbor turned to him and said:

"Why don't you applaud? Don't you like the opera?"

"No," replied Leoncavallo, "I don't like it at all. It is the work of a beginner, to say nothing worse."

"Then you know nothing about music," observed his fair neighbor.

"Oh, yes I do," and to prove his statement he began a discussion on counterpoint, showing, also, wherein Leoncavallo's music was worthless, almost all of the arias having been stolen from Beethoven, Bizet, and others. His neighbor listened silently, and when he finished, she asked:

"And this is your real opinion?"

"Certainly."

Next morning the composer was stunned to read in the morning paper, word for word, his criticism of the day before under his own name. His sweet neighbor was the musical critic of the paper, and had recognized him at once, taking that way to secure a creditable "beat."—*Chicago Evening Post.*

SPECIAL NOTICE

To Graduating Classes, 1896, and to the Deans of the different Faculties.

The attention of the members of the Graduating Classes of McGill for 1896 is directed to the existence of the following Societies of McGill Graduates :

McGill Graduates Society of New York,
R. A. GUNN, B.A.Sc., Secretary,
54 West 23rd Street, NEW YORK.

McGill Graduates Society of Toronto,
R. B. HENDERSON, B.A., B.C.L., Secretary,
TORONTO, Ont.

McGill Graduates Society of British Columbia,
W. J. McGuigan, M.D., Secretary,
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Ottawa Valley Graduates Society,
ALFRED E. BARLOW, M.A., Secretary,
OTTAWA, Ont.

Graduates Society of McGill University (Montreal),
H. V. TRUELL, B.A., B.C.L., Secretary,
Temple Building,
185 St. James St., MONTREAL.

Members of the graduating classes are cordially invited to unite with these Societies, and the Deans of the respective Faculties are respectfully requested to lay the claims of the Societies before the members of the Graduating Classes, before or on the occasion of Convocation.

Pelletier

Organist of St. James Cathedral and Professor of the Piano and Organ

Monsieur L. E. N. Pratte
Cher Monsieur

Les pianos droits de votre fabrique - si j'en juge par celui dont j'ai fait l'acquisition - réunissent toutes les qualités artistiques : timbre limpide chantant et absolument pur de toutes résonnances harmoniques ou cavernueuses, si fréquentes dans les basses des pianos droits ; Mécanisme facile et tellement élastique qu'il répond à l'attaque la plus énergique comme à la pression la plus délicate ; permettant en un mot les nuances les plus délicates - Recevez mes félicitations pour ce beau travail
Votri
R. Oct. Pelletier
le 28 Nov. 1893

TRANSLATION.

MONTREAL, 28th November, 1893.

MR. L. E. N. PRATTE, Montreal :

DEAR SIR.—The upright pianos of your make—if one may form a judgment from the one I have acquired—possess a combination of all the qualities esteemed by musicians, a liquid and singing quality of tone entirely free from all overtones and rumbling sounds so frequently found in upright pianos, a touch so light and elastic as to answer to the most vigorous attack and the lightest pressure,—in fact, capable of the most varied effects. Allow me to congratulate you on your good work.

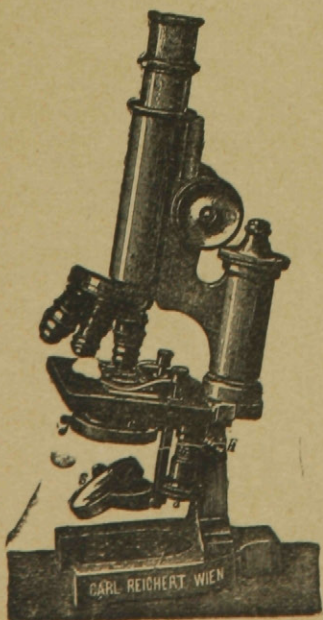
Yours, etc.

R. OCT. PELLETIER.

It is only necessary to know the delicate and conscientious artist who has written the above letter to form an idea of the high value of such an opinion. We have a large assortment of PRATTE Pianos, similar to Mr. Pelletier's, as we manufacture only one size and one quality.

Prices reasonable. Terms easy. Old instruments taken in exchange

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